Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 14 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Thursday 15 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 13 Dec 2022 at 14:27

Confidence: High for continuing cold conditions through the next few days then for slightly milder conditions to arrive over the weekend but lower confidence in the details for this.

Headline for Wednesday 14 Dec 2022: Very cold with long sunny or clear spells. Breezy on the tops.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 14 Dec 2022

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Clear night	Clear night	Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Clear night	Clear night
Precipitation probability							
00%	00%	10%	00%	00%	00%	00%	00%

Forecast for Wednesday 14 Dec 2022

Weather: Clear skies and severe frost overnight then a sunny day but feeling bitterly cold. The odd patch of freezing fog will be slow to clear during the morning. A clear evening with severe frost continuing.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 95%.

Low cloud and visibility: Mainly excellent visibility expected. The odd patch of fog in the valleys in the morning.

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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Wednesday 14 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	22/27 NE	22/27 NE	23/29 NE	24/29 NE	22/28 N	20/26 N	19/24 N	17/22 N	17/22 N
600	15/22 NE	12/18 NE	13/19 NE	15/22 N	15/20 N	15/21 N	13/20 N	13/20 N	10/15 N
300	6/19 NE	5/17 N	5/17 N	6/17 N	9/19 N	6/18 N	6/17 N	5/15 N	4/15 N
Valley	5/8 NE	4/8 NE	4/8 NE	9/12 N	8/12 N	11/15 N	10/21 N	7/17 NW	6/15 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-5/-13	-5/-14	-6/-14	-7/-16	-6/-15	-7/-15	-8/-16	-7/-15	-7/-14
600	-4/-11	-4/-10	-5/-11	-5/-12	-4/-11	-5/-12	-6/-13	-6/-13	-6/-11
300	-4/-8	-5/-8	-5/-7	-3/-7	-2/-6	-3/-7	-4/-8	-4/-8	-4/-7
Valley	-4/-5	-6/-7	-7/-7	-3/-5	1/-4	0/-5	-1/-6	-1/-5	-1/-4
Freezing Level*	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Feeling bitterly cold especially on shaded slopes and in exposure to the northerly breeze on the tops.

Forecast for Thursday 15 Dec 2022

Weather: Clear or sunny conditions but bitterly cold with a widespread severe frost. Breezy on the tops at first.

Maximum wind: Northerly 15mph gusts 25mph at first, decreasing to 10-15mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 95%.

Low cloud and visibility: Excellent visibility expected.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 7C rising to 1C, but below freezing all day in shade.
At 800m: Minus 6C.
Freezing level: Ground frozen at all levels.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date Tuesday 13 December. Helvellyn summit at 1205. Full report: The incredibly stable, dry, cold weather continues and, accompanied with light, almost non-existent, winds this has resulted in similarly stable ground conditions with virtually no change since yesterday. With a severe overnight frost at all levels followed by daytime temperatures remaining at or below zero down to valley level there has also been marginal thaw/freeze action. Patches of ice could be found anywhere, but mostly at lower elevations along drainage lines where there has been previous thaw/freeze action. Ice on paths, however, is certainly the exception, rather than the rule. Although snow can be found down to valley level, the main snow line is around 200m. Above 200m paths, ground and rocks are covered by around 1cm to 3cm of soft, normally fairly grippy, snow although below 750m there has been a previous thaw on aspects catching the sun. There were isolated patches of ice on rocks and paths where the snow/frost has been compacted on popular routes.Upland tarns, such as Red Tarn, have frozen with apparently thick ice. There were, however, cracks in the ice some of which were hidden under a light covering of snow, so they are unsafe to walk on.Full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment including torch, map and compass and the ability to use them in potentially poor visibility such as low cloud are all essential to safely enjoy the fells. Extra clothing, though, is not just for safety, but also for comfort as the summit again today was a place to don extra clothing and linger to simply absorb the magnificent panorama. Walking poles to aid stability on slippery paths could also be useful. For those heading above the snowline and attempting, or traversing, steep and exposed routes, such as both Striding and Swirral Edges, microspikes/crampons & an ice axe could be a sensible addition to the rucksack. Hopefully sunglasses will also be essential equipment as they were today! For those interested in the weather stats, the summit air temp of minus 6.3 degrees was recorded in the shade. In the winter sun and with virtually nil winds, it felt around zero – warmer than the valleys! Temperature minus 6.3 degC. Maximum wind speed 3.7 mph. Wind chill minus 9.8 degC. Average wind speed 1.5mph.

Issued at: 1427 on Tue 13 Dec 2022

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